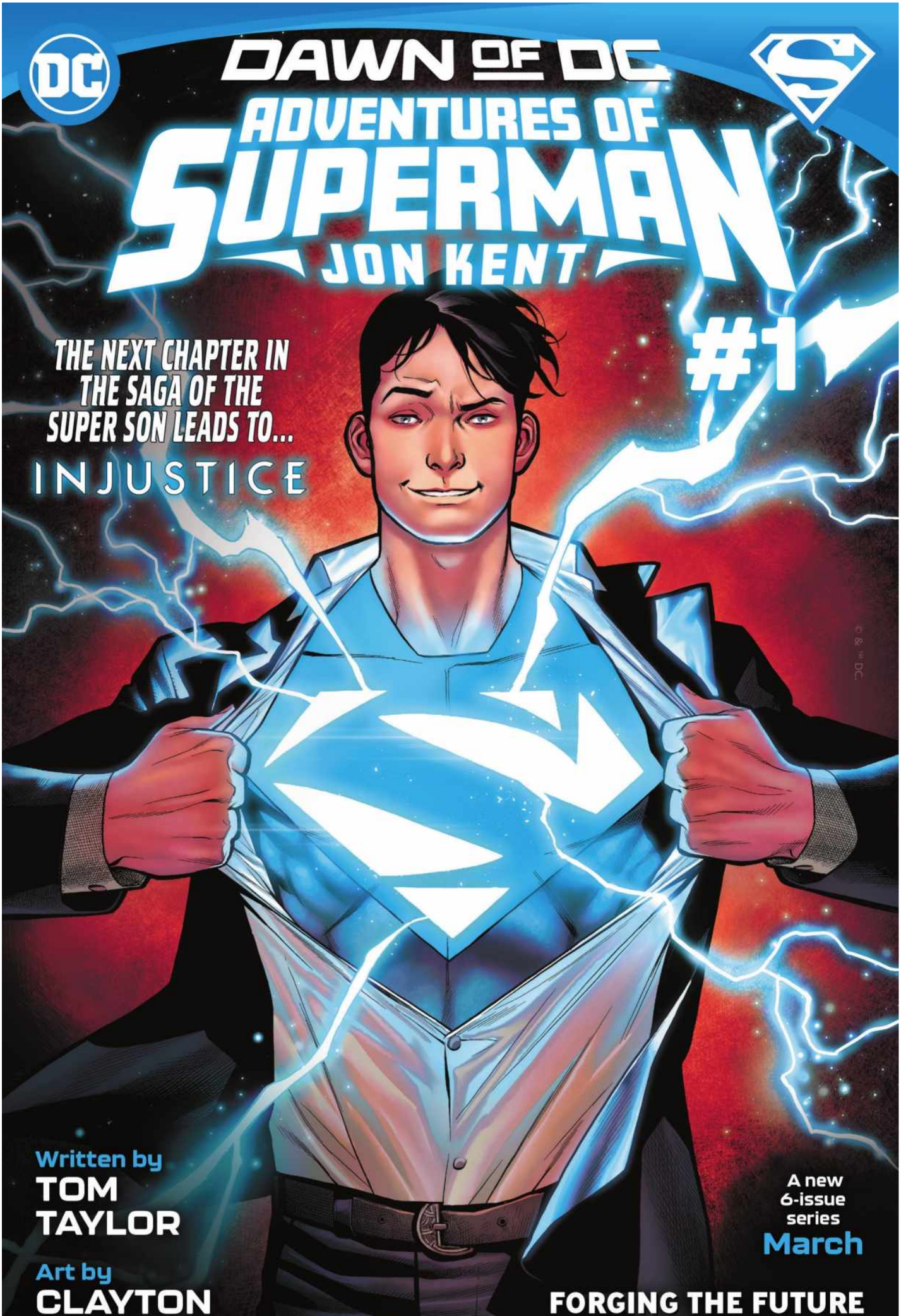
PAUL DANO STEVAN SUBIC

THE RIDDLER

YEAR ONE

BOOK THREE

DC BLACK


DC
DAWN OF DC
ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN
JON KENT
#1
THE NEXT CHAPTER IN THE SAGA OF THE SUPER SON LEADS TO...
INJUSTICE
Written by
TOM TAYLOR
Art by
CLAYTON
A new 6-issue series
March
FORGING THE FUTURE

THE RIDDLER
YEAR ONE

WRITER
PAUL DANO

ARTIST
STEVAN SUBIC

LETTERER **CLAYTON COWLES**

COVER BY **BILL SIENKIEWICZ**
VARIANT COVER BY **STEVAN SUBIC**
VARIANT COVER BY **BEN OLIVER**
1:25 VARIANT COVER BY **MICO SUAYAN & ANNETTE KWOK**

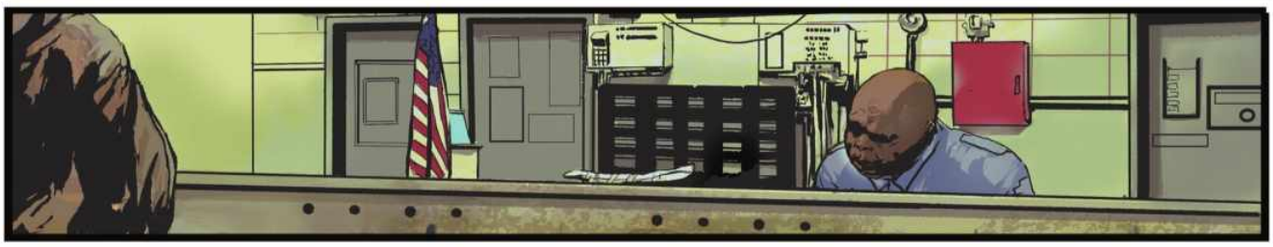
BATMAN CREATED BY
BOB KANE WITH **BILL FINGER**

SCARED FOR MY LIFE.
To the Police Commissioner
GCPD Gotham

URGENT!

Evidence!!
POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF GOTHAM
GOTHAM CITY POLICE

CAN BARELY BREATHE.



HEY, YOU.

WHAT IS THIS? YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE THIS HERE.

I'M JUST THE DELIVERY GUY. WAS HIRED TO DROP IT HERE.

BY WHO?
SOME GUY NAMED PATRICK PARKER.

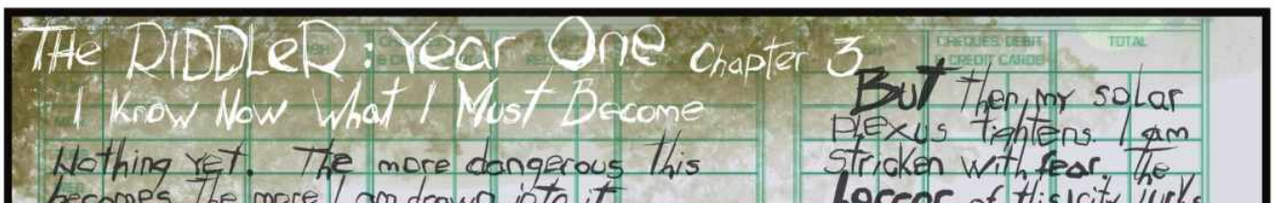
Gotham Police Dept
YOU'RE RISKING

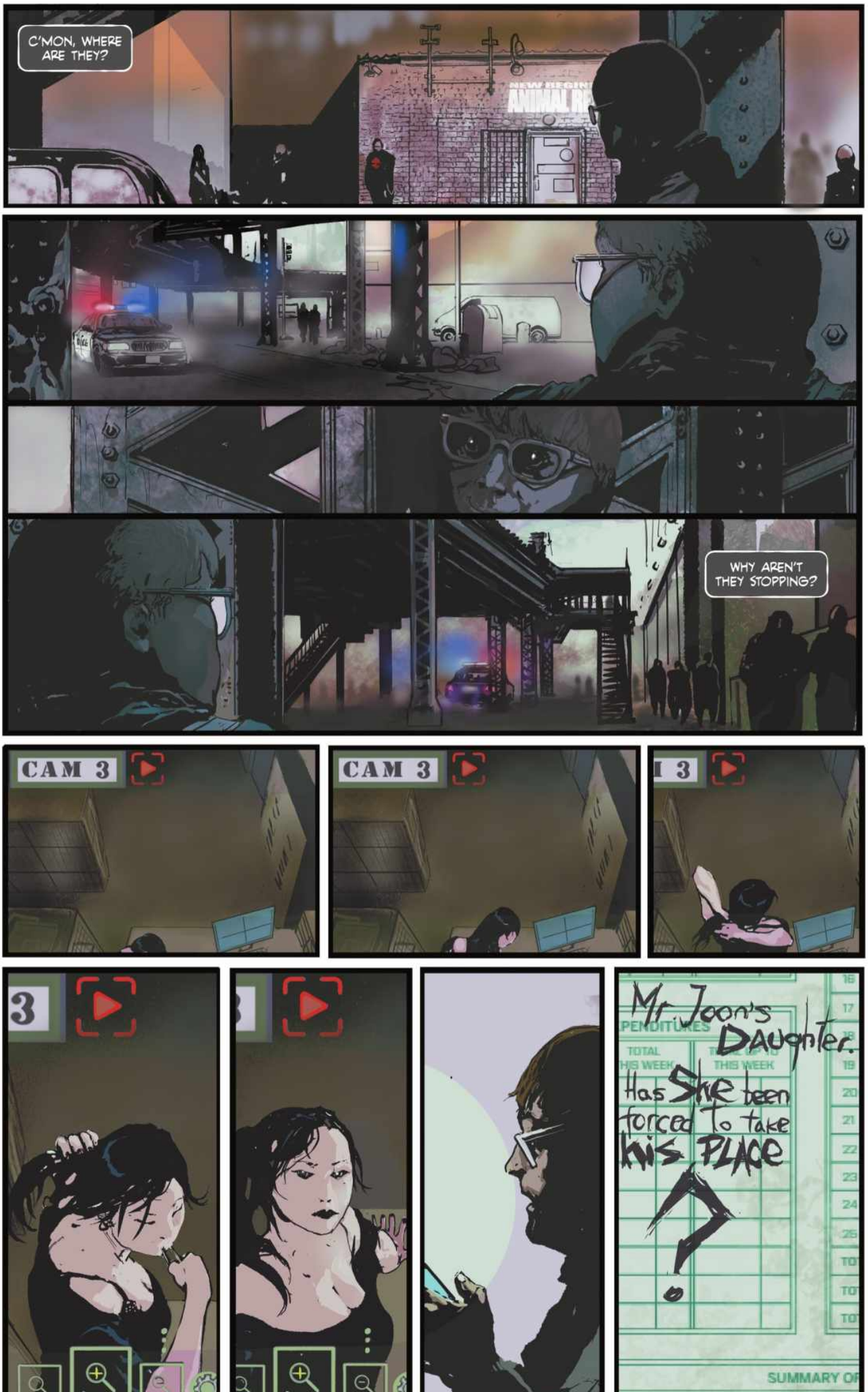
JUST BREATHE, EDWARD.
EDWARD.
I WAS EXPECTING YOU MIGHT HAVE FOUND SOMETHING IN THE WAYNE ACCOUNT BY NOW.

HE KNOWS.
UM. LIKE WHAT, SIR?
OH, NOTHING IN PARTICULAR. I HAVE A CLIENT WHO IS...SKEPTICAL OF WAYNE ENTERPRISES. SO DO LET ME KNOW IF YOU FIND SOMETHING WORTH LOOKING INTO.

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID, SIR.
YES, SIR. I WILL.
GOOD BOY.
HE'S WATCHING YOU, EDWARD.

HE DOESN'T KNOW YOU'RE WATCHING HIM.


THE RIDDLER: Year One Chapter 3
I Know Now What I Must Become
Nothing yet. The more dangerous this becomes the more I am drawn into it
But then my solar plexus tightens. I am stricken with fear. The


C'MON, WHERE ARE THEY?
WHY AREN'T THEY STOPPING?
CAM 3
CAM 3
Mr. Joon's Daughter.
Has She been forced to take his PLACE
?
SUMMARY OF

3
SCARED.
THE POLICE MUST COME SOON.
SCREEEE
I SEE DANGER AROUND EVERY CORNER.
CAN'T HOLD THIS ALONE MUCH LONGER.
NEED HELP.

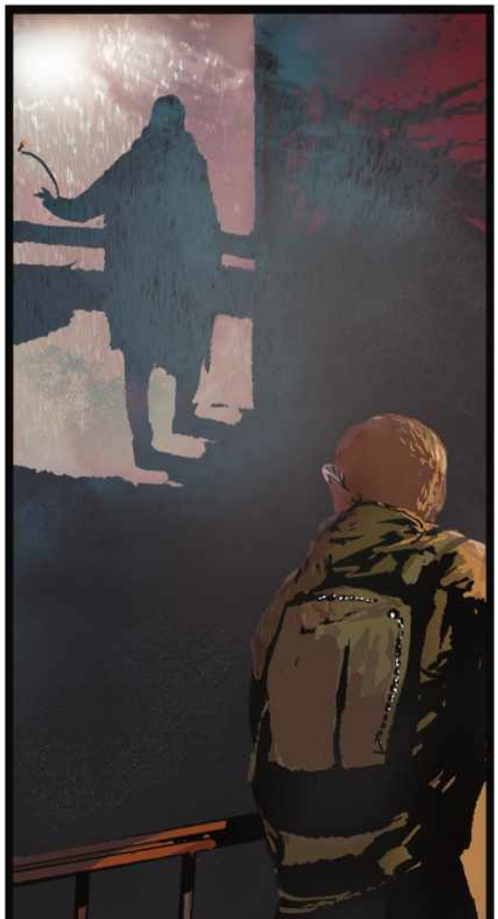
DISEASED. THE ENTIRE POPULATION.

EXCUSE ME?

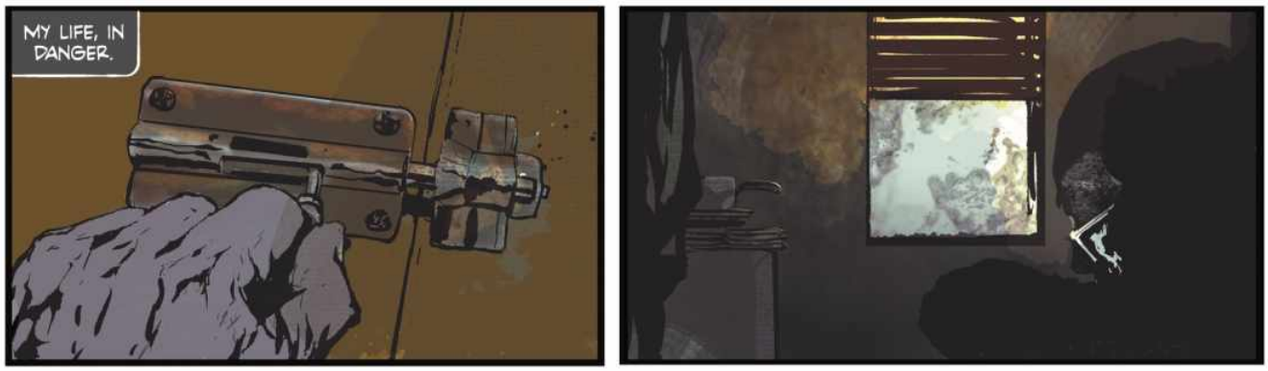
THE RAT POPULATION. THERE'S A DISEASE SPREADING THROUGH THEM. THEY'RE TURNING UP DEAD IN THE STREET ALL OVER THE CITY.

EDWARD THE RAT. CAGE 3H.

EXCUSE ME, HOW DID YOU KNOW MY--

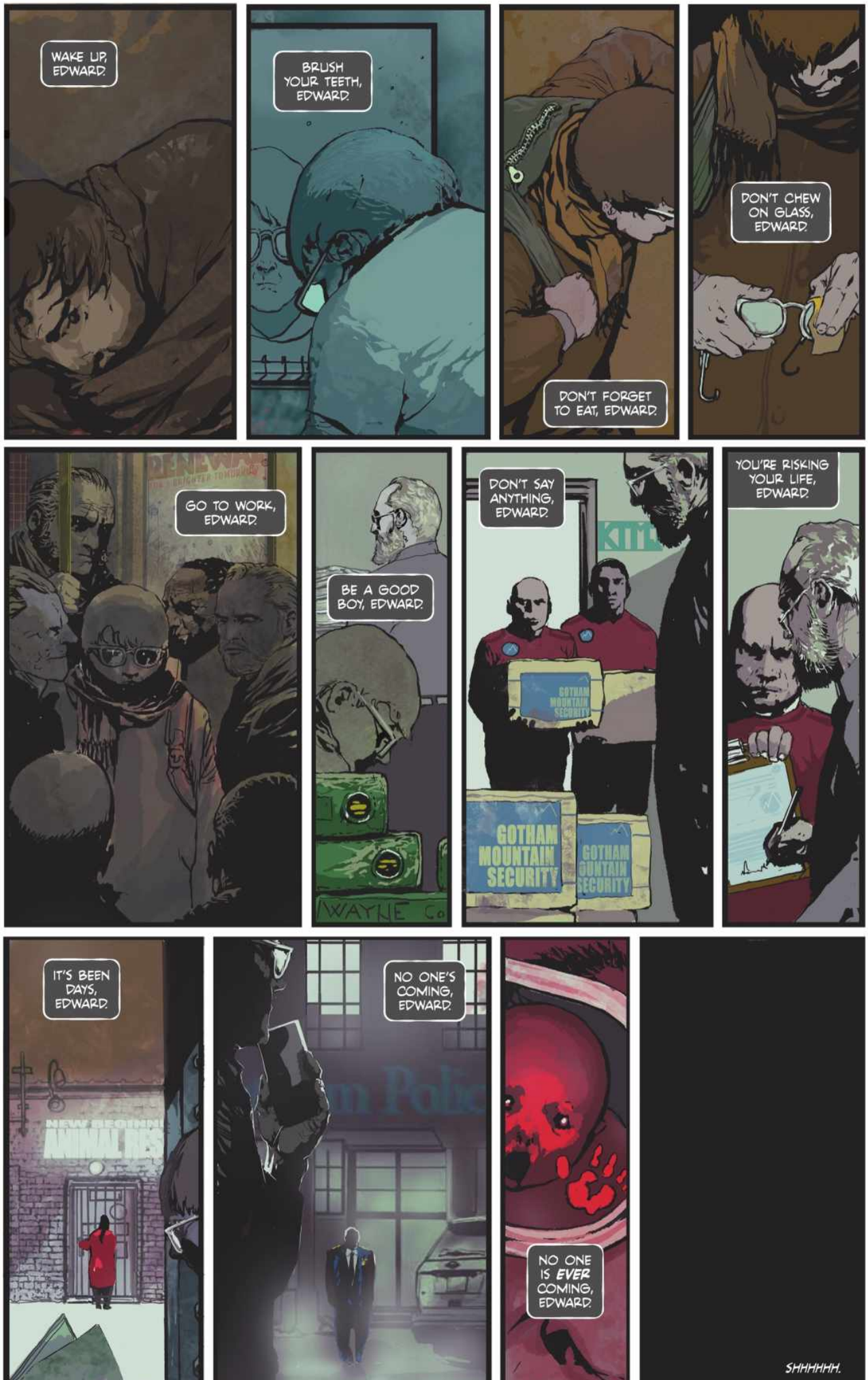


Himmelstein:1B
Kosakow: 2C
Nashton 3H
Pfeil: 1A
Lee : 2D
Wilson: 3G


MY LIFE, IN DANGER.

NOWHERE FEELS SAFE.

BREATHE, EDWARD.


WAKE UP, EDWARD.
BRUSH YOUR TEETH, EDWARD.
DON'T FORGET TO EAT, EDWARD.
DON'T CHEW ON GLASS, EDWARD.
GO TO WORK, EDWARD.
BE A GOOD BOY, EDWARD.
DON'T SAY ANYTHING, EDWARD.
GOTHAM MOUNTAIN SECURITY
YOU'RE RISKING YOUR LIFE, EDWARD.
IT'S BEEN DAYS, EDWARD.
NO ONE'S COMING, EDWARD.
NO ONE IS EVER COMING, EDWARD.
SHHHHHH.

> WHO IS THIS?

<?> I CANNOT SAY. BUT DON'T WORRY. I SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FATHER. I HAVE INFORMED THE POLICE.

> THE POLICE?! THEY WON'T DO ANYTHING!!!

<?> WHY NOT?!

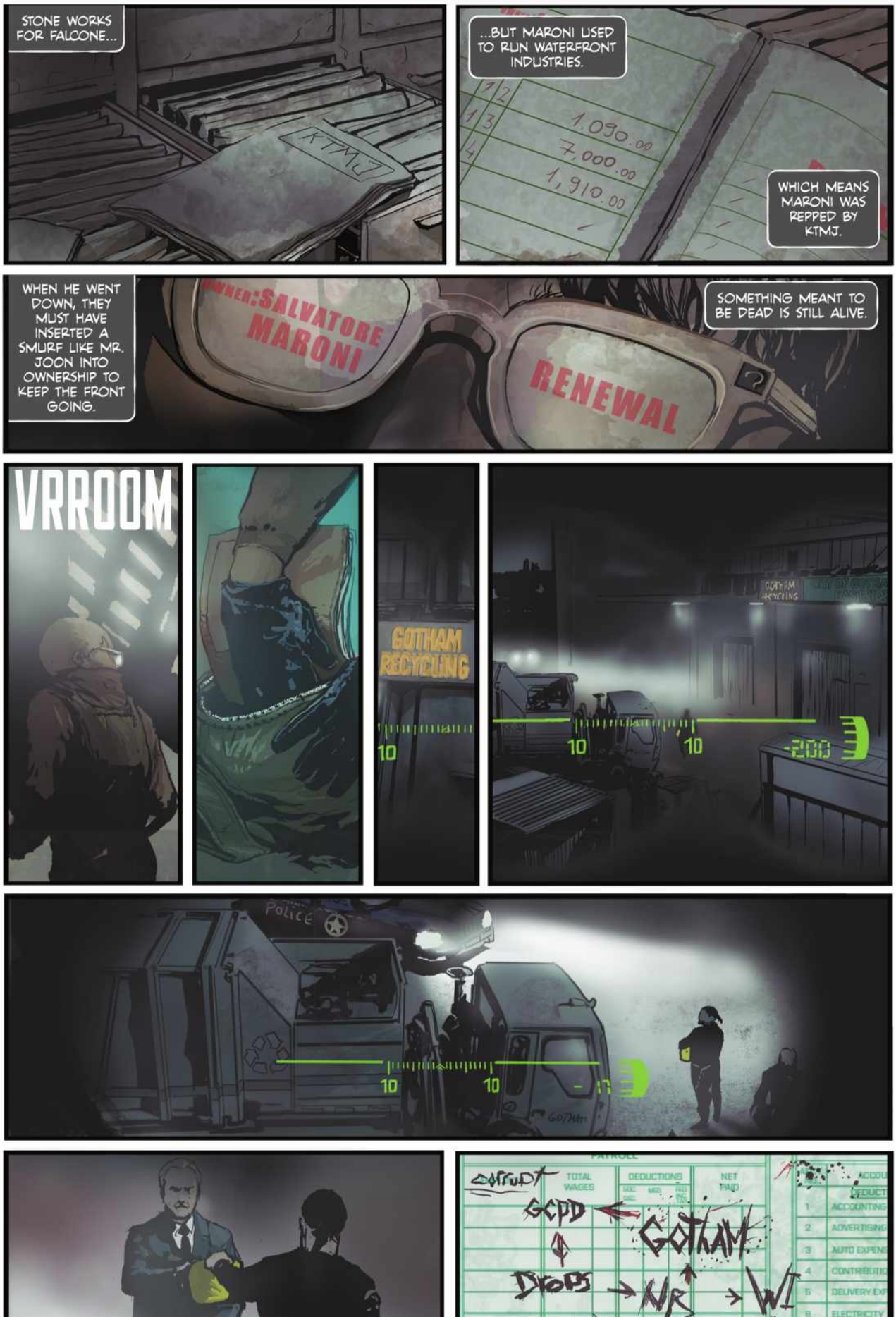
> YOU FOOL. YOU COULD GET ME KILLED! DO NOT CONTACT ME. EVER AGAIN.

NO! COME BACK!
Sleep
Shut down
Restart
NO ONE IS COMING.
GOTHAM ORPHANAGE WAYNE FAMILY
NO ONE IS COMING, SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
FOLLOW THE NUMBERS
THANK YOU.

W.I.
A FRONT. WHO KNOWS THE LAST TIME SOMEONE WAS IN THIS PLACE.
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

GASP!

WHERE ARE YOU?


STONE WORKS FOR FALCONE...
KTMJ
...BUT MARONI USED TO RUN WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES.
1,090.00
7,000.00
1,910.00
WHICH MEANS MARONI WAS REPPED BY KTMJ.
WHEN HE WENT DOWN, THEY MUST HAVE INSERTED A SMURF LIKE MR. JOON INTO OWNERSHIP TO KEEP THE FRONT GOING.
SALVATORE MARONI
RENEWAL
SOMETHING MEANT TO BE DEAD IS STILL ALIVE.
VRROOM
GOTHAM RECYCLING
10
10
10
-200
POLICE
10
10
10
TOTAL WAGES
DEDUCTIONS
NET PAID
GCPD
GOTHAM
Drops
NB
WI
mr JOON
mr. S.
R?
ACCOUNTING
ADVERTISING
AUTO EXPENS
CONTRIBUTIO
DELIVERY EXP
ELECTRICITY
FREIGHT & EX
HEAT
INTERES

> WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT??

<?> YOU WERE RIGHT. ABOUT THE POLICE.

> I KNOW. I CAN'T DO THIS. IT IS TOO DANGEROUS. GOODBYE.

<?> WAIT!

<?> I NEED YOUR HELP. THERE'S A MISSING PIECE. I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

> I CANNOT HELP YOU. IF I SAID ANYTHING, THEY WOULD KILL ME.
> I HAVE A BABY.
> I AM HIS MOTHER.
> I MUST DO EVERYTHING TO PROTECT HIM, SO HE DOESN'T END UP AN ORPHAN, AS I HAVE BEEN MADE NOW.

<?> THEN DON'T SAY ANYTHING. IF I'M RIGHT, DO NOT RESPOND. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

...

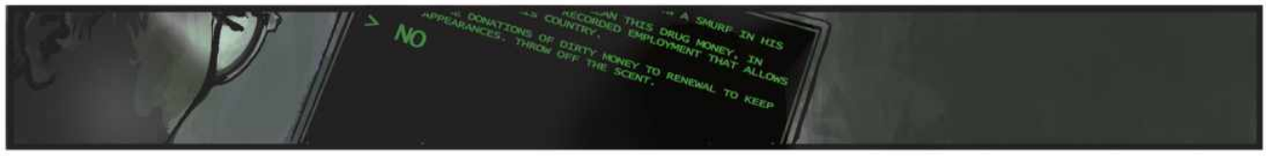
<?> DROPS MONEY IS COMING IN TO NEW BEGINNINGS. YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED TO LOG PAYMENTS TO A SHELL COMPANY CALLED WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES. YOU LOG THESE PAYMENTS AS VARYING NUMBERS, SO THAT NO COMPUTER, OR PERSON, WOULD BE ABLE TO TRACK THEM. THAT MONEY, WHICH TOTALS A $10,000 PAYMENT, IS THEN SENT FROM WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES TO THE RENEWAL PROGRAM AS A DONATION.

...

<?> YOUR FATHER WAS A SMURF. YOU ARE NOW A SMURF IN HIS PLACE.

<?> YOU ARE BEING FORCED TO CLEAN THIS DRUG MONEY, IN RETURN FOR OFFICIALLY RECORDED EMPLOYMENT THAT ALLOWS YOU TO STAY IN THIS COUNTRY.

<?> YOU MAKE DONATIONS OF DIRTY MONEY TO RENEWAL TO KEEP UP APPEARANCES. THROW OFF THE SCENT.



<?> THEN WHY?!

> I DON'T KNOW!

<?> WHO DOES?!

> I DON'T KNOW! WE JUST DO WHAT THEY SAY!

<?> YOU AND YOUR FATHER? IS THERE ANYONE ELSE?

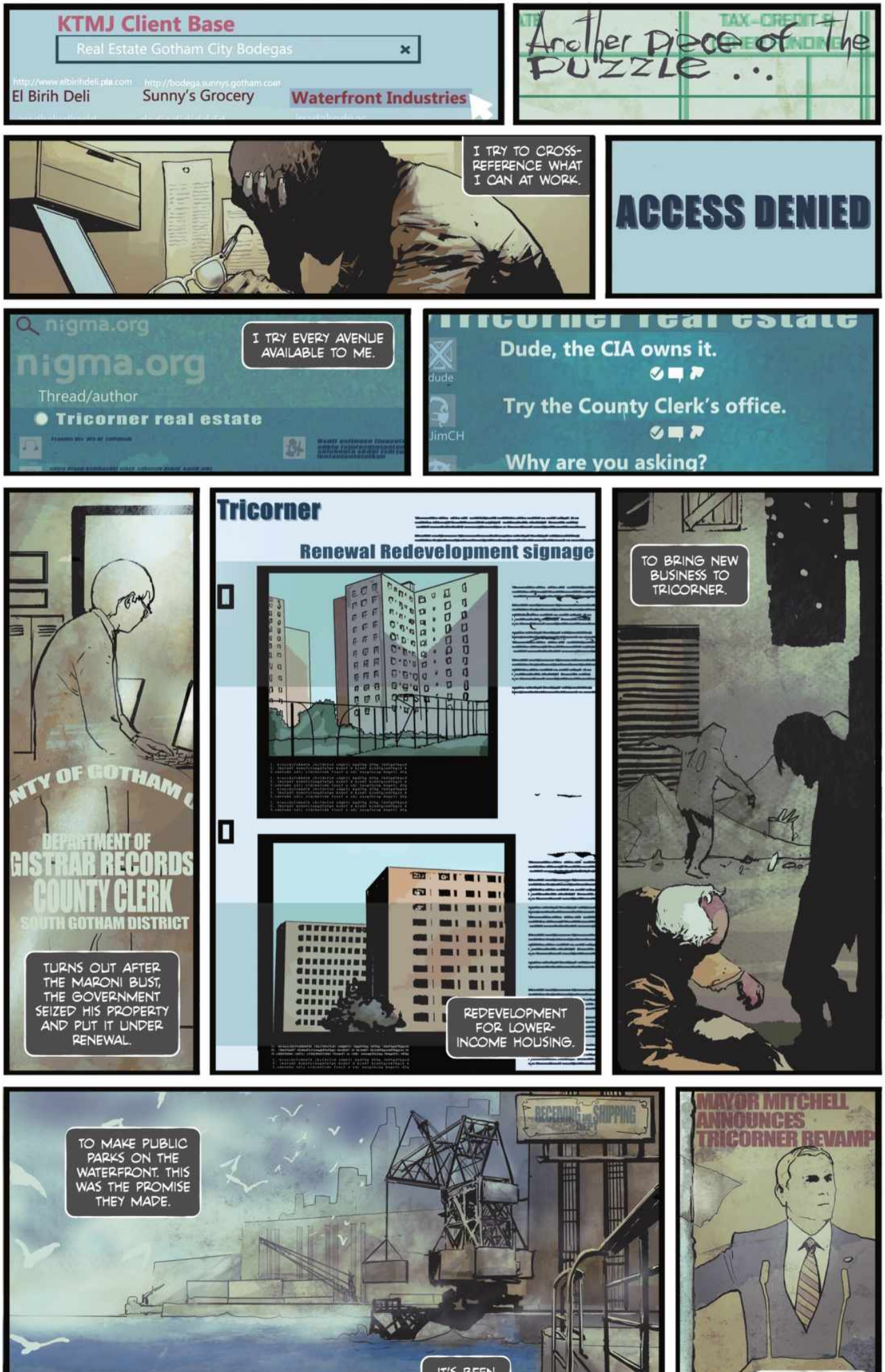
> YES. THERE ARE MANY OF US.

> THERE ARE MANY OF US WHO HAVE BEEN FORCED TO WORK FOR HIM.

<?> FORCED TO WORK FOR WHO?!

...

> I'VE SAID TOO MUCH. I HAVE TO GO. DO NOT EVER CONTACT ME AGAIN. NEXT TIME I WILL NOT RESPOND.


KTMJ Client Base
Real Estate Gotham City Bodegas
El Birih Deli
Sunny's Grocery
Waterfront Industries
Another Piece of The Puzzle...
I TRY TO CROSS-REFERENCE WHAT I CAN AT WORK.
ACCESS DENIED
nigma.org
I TRY EVERY AVENUE AVAILABLE TO ME.
Thread/author
Tricorner real estate
Dude, the CIA owns it.
Try the County Clerk's office.
Why are you asking?
DEPARTMENT OF
COUNTY CLERK
SOUTH GOTHAM DISTRICT
TURNS OUT AFTER THE MARONI BUST, THE GOVERNMENT SEIZED HIS PROPERTY AND PUT IT UNDER RENEWAL.
Tricorner
Renewal Redevelopment signage
REDEVELOPMENT FOR LOWER-INCOME HOUSING.
TO BRING NEW BUSINESS TO TRICORNER.
TO MAKE PUBLIC PARKS ON THE WATERFRONT. THIS WAS THE PROMISE THEY MADE.
IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS. NOTHING.
MAYOR MITCHELL ANNOUNCES TRICORNER REVAMP
SO MUCH FOR

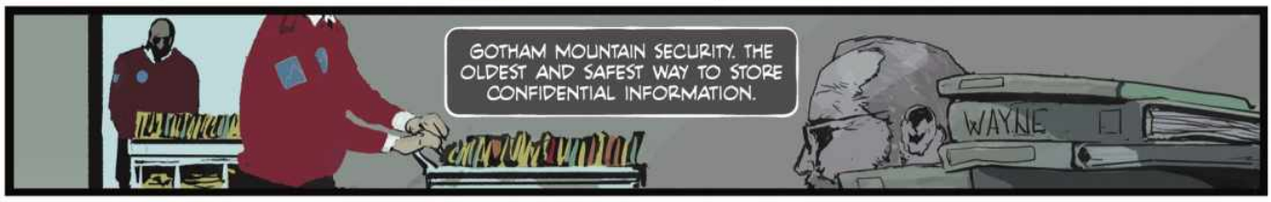
THE RICH AND THE CRIMINAL LEGALLY HIDING BEHIND A CORPORATE FACADE SO THEY CAN BUY UP PROPERTY. A SAFE PLACE TO HIDE THEIR MONEY. OR TO RUN IT THROUGH.
WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES
WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES
ROPERTY RECORDS
IT DRIVES THE HOUSING MARKET UP, MAKING THE RENT UNAFFORDABLE TO US LOWLY CITIZENS.
BAKERY
Wall ST
THE TOOLS OF THE RICH...
...ARE THE TOOLS OF THE CRIMINAL.
PROTECTED BY THE SYSTEM. THE ULTIMATE TOOL THEY CAN HIDE BEHIND.
LEGALLY HIDDEN.
OTHAM HARBOR ICEBERG FISH C
THERE ARE ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO MIGHT KNOW THE HIDDEN IDENTITY OF AN LLC, OTHER THAN THE OWNER THEMSELVES.
THE LAWYER WHO CREATED THE LLC ON THEIR BEHALF...
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF GOTHAM CITY
...OR THE ACCOUNTANT THAT DID.
EEK OF THE YEAR
APRIL 9th
TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM BUSIN
CHEQUES & CREDIT
Need to access those records...

SIR, YOU ASKED ME TO LET YOU KNOW DIRECTLY IF I FOUND ANYTHING IN THE WAYNE ACCOUNT.
YES. TELL ME, WHAT DID YOU FIND?
WELL, NOTHING CONCRETE YET, SIR. BUT I DO HAVE SOME QUESTIONS.
I NOTICED SOME ANOMALIES IN HOW THE COMPANY PAYS BRUCE WAYNE, SIR.
WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I'D LIKE TO LOOK FURTHER INTO THAT. I JUST NEED TO ACCESS SOME PAST RECORDS.
HMMM. WELL, I'M HARDLY SURPRISED TO HEAR SUSPICIONS ABOUT BRUCE WAYNE. PEOPLE WHO HIDE TEND TO HAVE REASON TO HIDE.
MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY, SIR.

OKAY. I'LL TELL SUZY TO GIVE YOU ACCESS TO THOSE RECORDS.

KTMJ

WHOA! RAIN MAN! MAKING IT RAIN!

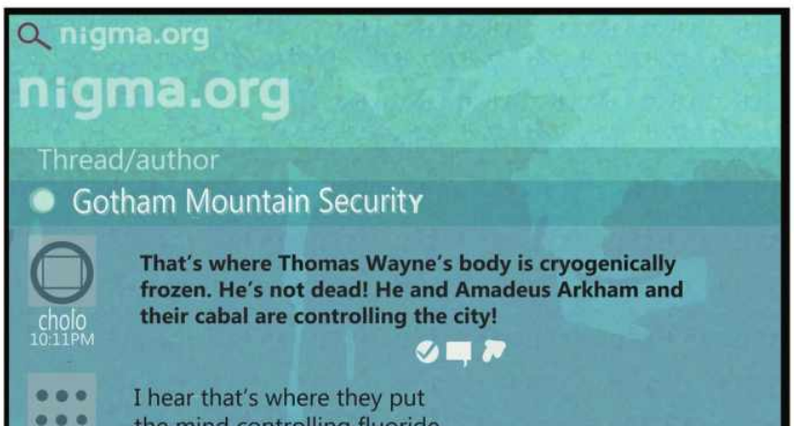

GOTHAM MOUNTAIN SECURITY. THE OLDEST AND SAFEST WAY TO STORE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.
WAYNE

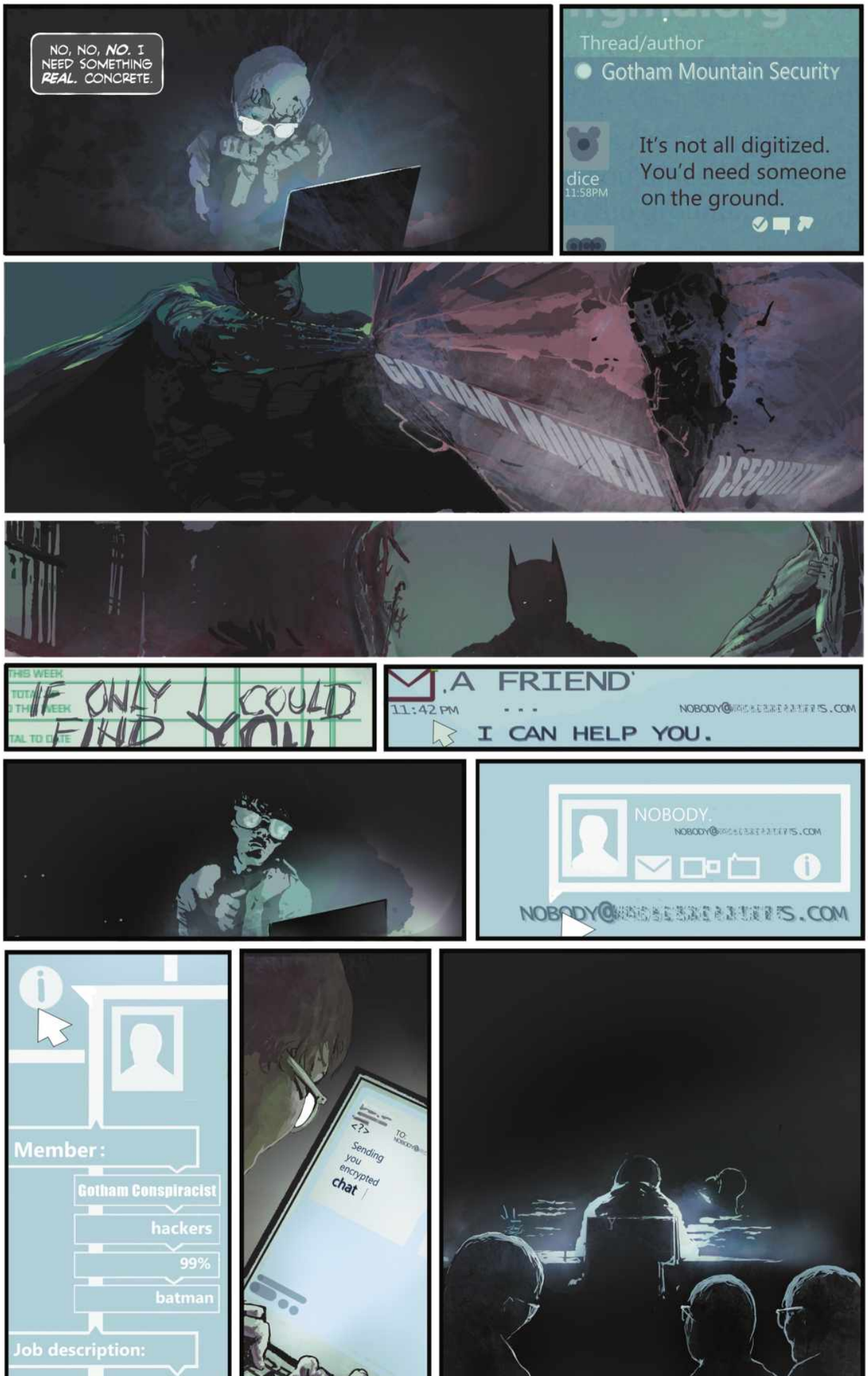
KTMJ
SOMEONE SAW THAT CORPORATIONS AND RICH PEOPLE NEEDED A SECURE WAY TO STORE THEIR DOCUMENTS. THIS WAS BEFORE EVERYTHING WENT DIGITAL.

SO THEY TOOK AN OUT-OF-BUSINESS COPPER MINE OUTSIDE THE CITY AND TURNED IT INTO A SECURE STORAGE FACILITY.

KTMJ, GOTHAM'S OLDEST AND MOST REPUTABLE ACCOUNTING FIRM, STILL DOES EVERYTHING BY HAND.
GOTHAM MOUNTAIN SECURITY

I AM STARTING TO WONDER WHY...


nigma.org
nigma.org
Thread/author
Gotham Mountain Security
cholo
10:11PM
That's where Thomas Wayne's body is cryogenically frozen. He's not dead! He and Amadeus Arkham and their cabal are controlling the city!
I hear that's where they put


NO, NO, NO. I NEED SOMETHING REAL. CONCRETE.
Thread/author
Gotham Mountain Security
dice
11:58PM
It's not all digitized. You'd need someone on the ground.
IF ONLY I COULD FIND YOU
.A FRIEND'
11:42 PM
I CAN HELP YOU.
NOBODY.
Member:
Gotham Conspiracist
hackers
99%
batman
Job description:
Sending you encrypted chat

> I'VE SEEN YOU PLAY BEFORE. YOU ARE GOOD.

<?> :)

<?> I SEE WE HAVE SIMILAR INTERESTS.

> WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOTHAM MOUNTAIN SECURITY?

<?> I NEED TO GET INSIDE.

> WHY?

<?>

> I SEE. LOST MY BROTHER TO DROPS. IT'S HOW THEY KEEP THE LOWER CLASS DOWN.

<?> HOW CAN I TRUST YOU?

>

<?>

> I CAN GET YOU IN.

> GRAVEYARD SHIFT STARTS AT MIDNIGHT.

> SMOKE BREAK AROUND 2AM. DOOR WILL BE LEFT OPEN. I'LL LOOP CAMERAS THEN.

> TAKE YOUR FIRST LEFT.GO DOWN THE STAIRS.AHEAD ON YOUR RIGHT,WILLBE A LOCKER ROOM.

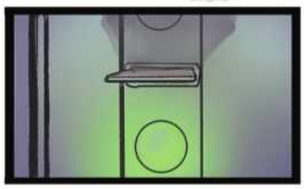
> LOCKER 8. CHANGE THERE. TAKE KEY CARD.

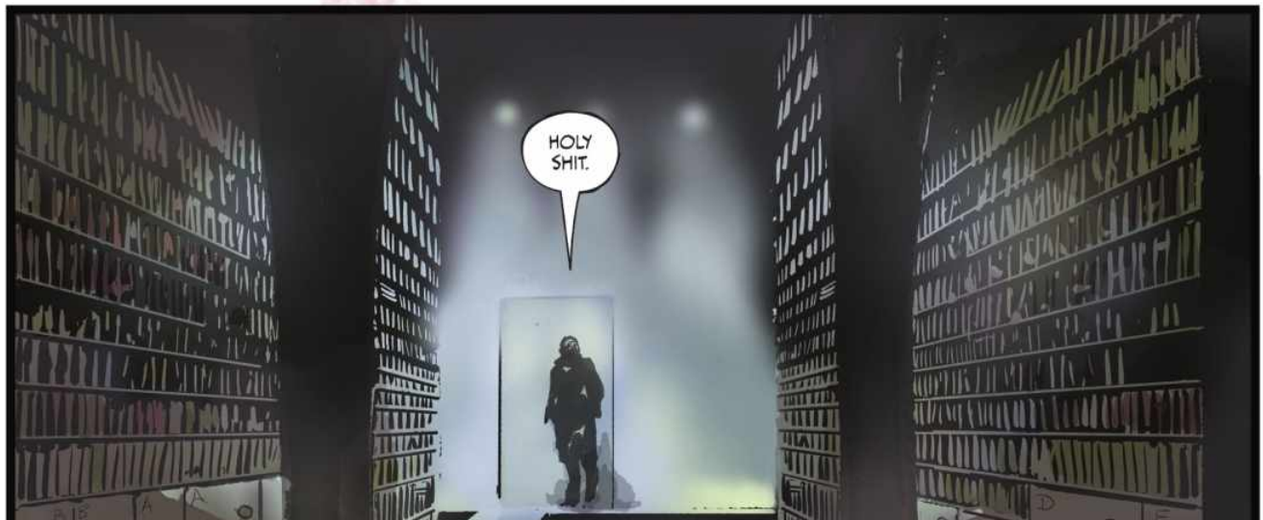
8
> TAKE ELEVATOR DOWN TO SUB LEVEL THREE.

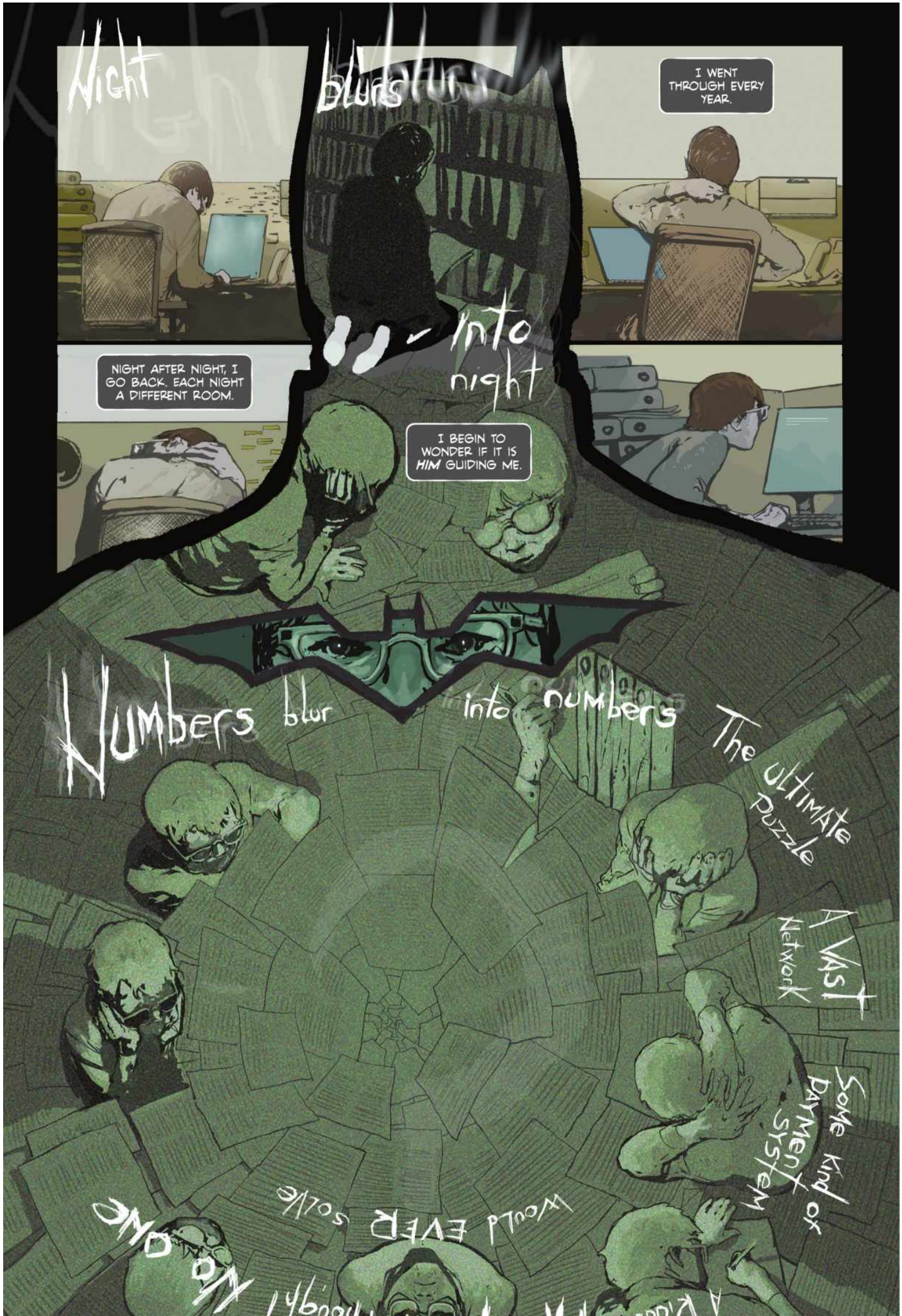
FLOOR MAP
> MEMORIZE MAP OF FLOOR IN ADVANCE.

> KTMJ HAS THE WHOLE FLOOR.

> GOOD LUCK.
C40A




HOLY SHIT.


Night
blurs
I WENT THROUGH EVERY YEAR.
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, I GO BACK. EACH NIGHT A DIFFERENT ROOM.
into night
I BEGIN TO WONDER IF IT IS *HIM* GUIDING ME.
Numbers blur into numbers
The ultimate puzzle
A vast network
Some kind of payment system
would EVER solve
No one

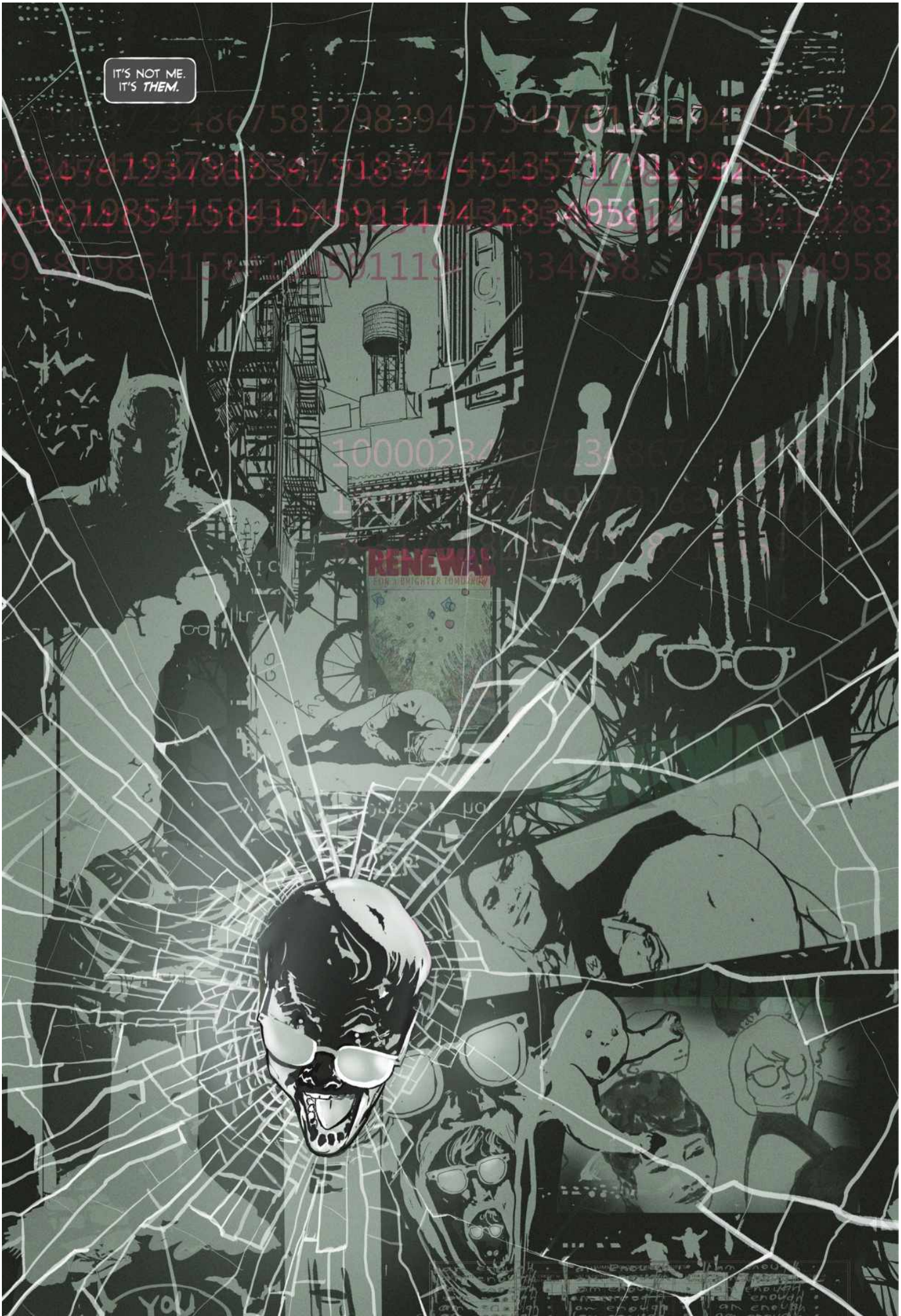
ALL THOSE FRONTS PAYING INTO RENEWAL. BUT WHY?!
WHY
WHY
NIGHTS TURN TO WEEKS. NOTHING CLICKING. NOTHING COMING TOGETHER.
MEMORIES RISING. MY MIND BEGINS TO EAT ME.

ALL MY LIFE, ALL MY DREADFUL LIFE, I'VE LOOKED FOR THESE ANSWERS.
THE RENEWAL PROJECT
WHY?
WHY ME?
WHY WAS I BORN INTO THIS BODY?
WHY WAS I EVER BORN AT ALL?
Application
REJECTED
You should crawl into the black hole inside yourself

ANOTHER DAY TO STAGGER THROUGH...
SLAP
I CAN'T MAKE IT ALONE ANYMORE...
I NEED YOU.
RENEWAL
KTMJ REPRESENTS RENEWAL.
HA HA HA.
HA HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

OF COURSE IT DOES! HOW DID I NOT SEE IT?!
GOTHAM'S OLDEST AND BIGGEST ACCOUNTING FIRM DOES THE CITY'S TAXES.

RENEWAL
BUT I NEVER HAD A CHANCE.
ALL THIS TIME...ALL THIS TIME I HAVE BLAMED MYSELF
IT WAS A LIE. IT WAS ALWAYS A LIE.
IT'S THE WHOLE SYSTEM!
10.000 $ ↑ GOTHAM POLICE PROTECTIVE FUND
THROUGH POLITICAL FUNDS, THROUGH CHARITIES! TO PAY PEOPLE OFF.
THEY'RE USING RENEWAL TO CLEAN THEIR MONEY AND MAKE PAYMENTS.
THEY ARE USING RENEWAL TO CLEAN THEIR MONEY.
WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES
NEW BEGINNINGS ANIMAL RE
RENEWAL
000 $ ↑ THE MITCHELL FUND
000 $ ↑ PROTECT THE INNOCENT FUND


IT'S NOT ME. IT'S *THEM.*
RENEWAL
FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

To the
BATMAN
Need Your
HELP

YES!

WEEK OF THE YEAR ____________ WEEK ENDED ____________ ACCOUNT NO. ____________ FILE NO. ____________

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM BUSINESS OR PROFESSION | PAID TO BANK

Friday July 16th

My life has been a cruel Riddle I could not solve, suffocating my mind, no escape. But then today. I SAW IT.. A SINGLE WORD on this ledger, sitting on the desk beside me! **RENEWAL!** The empty promise they sold to me as a child in that orphanage. One look inside and finally I UNDERSTOOD! My whole life has been PREPARING me for this... The moment when I would learn the **TRUTH**... When I could finally strike back and EXPOSE THEIR LIES! If you want people to understand, REALLY understand, you can't just give them the answers. You have to CONFRONT them. TORTURE THEM with the horrifying question: -- just like they tortured ME. I KNOW NOW WHAT I MUST BECOME

I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
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I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become

NON-DEDUCTIBLE EXPENDITURES

I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
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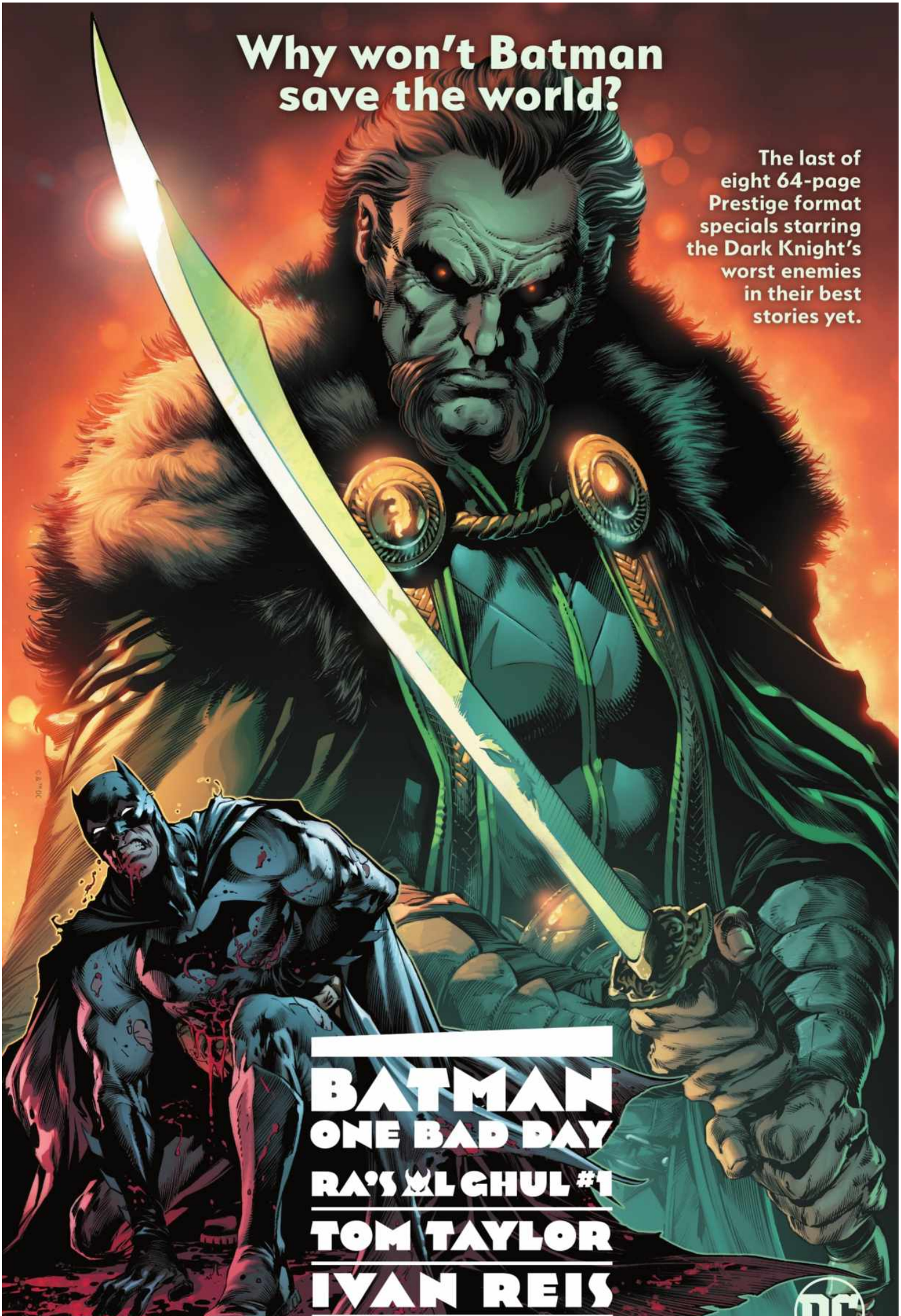
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become
I know now what I must become

EXPENDITURES

ACCT. NO.	ACCOUNT	TOTAL THIS WEEK	TOTAL UP TO THIS WEEK	TOTAL TO DATE
	DEDUCTIBLE			
1	ACCOUNTING			
2	ADVERTISING			
3	AUTO EXPENSE			
4	CONTRIBUTIONS			
5	DELIVERY EXP.			
6	ELECTRICITY			
7	FREIGHT & EXPR.			
8	HEAT			
9	INSURANCE			
10	INTEREST			
11	LEGAL EXPENSE			
12	LICENSES			
13	MISC. EXP.			
14	RENT			
15	REPAIRS			
16	TAX – SALES			
17	TAX SOC. SEC. /MED.			
18	TAX – STATE U. I.			
19	SUPPLIES			
20	TELEPHONE			
21	TRADE DUES, ETC.			
22	TRAVELING EXP.			
23	WAGES & COMM.			
24	WATER			
25				
	TOTAL THIS WEEK			
	TOTAL UP TO THIS WEEK			
	TOTAL TO DATE			

SUMMARY OF OTHER RECEIPTS

DAY/DATE	TAX-CREDIT & OTHER FUNDING	VAT REPAYMENTS	MISCELLANEOUS	EXTRA CAPITAL INTRODUCED	CHEQUES, CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS	NATURE OF PAYMENT
SUN						
MON						
TUES						
WED						
THUR						
FRI						
SAT						
TOTAL THIS WEEK						
TOTAL UP TO THIS WEEK						
TOTAL TO DATE						


Why won't Batman save the world?
The last of eight 64-page Prestige format specials starring the Dark Knight's worst enemies in their best stories yet.
BATMAN
ONE BAD DAY
RA'S AL GHUL #1
TOM TAYLOR
IVAN REIS

JIM CHADWICK
EDITOR

CHRIS CONROY
GROUP EDITOR

DARRAN ROBINSON
PUBLICATION DESIGN

SANDY ALONZO
PUBLICATION PRODUCTION

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PAUL DANO STEVAN SUBIC

THE RIDDLER YEAR ONE

"MY WHOLE LIFE HAS BEEN PREPARING ME FOR THIS. THE MOMENT WHEN I WOULD LEARN THE TRUTH. WHEN I COULD FINALLY STRIKE BACK AND EXPOSE THEIR LIES."

As depicted in Matt Reeves's hit movie *The Batman*, the Riddler wasn't simply an amusing eccentric with an affinity for wordplay and baffling clues, but as terrifying a villain as any in the annals of the Dark Knight. Here you can see Edward Nashton evolve into the menace known as the Riddler. How did an unknown forensic accountant uncover the dark secrets of Gotham's underworld and come so close to bringing down the entire city? This six-issue miniseries is an immediate prequel to *The Batman*—the detailed, disturbing, and at times shocking story of a man with nothing to lose.

Award-winning actor **Paul Dano** expands upon the backstory of the character he played in the film. He is joined by acclaimed European artist **Stevan Subic**, making his American comics debut. Their collaboration delivers a shadowy and gritty portrait of a society's forgotten man—one who refuses to go unnoticed any longer.

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